

- 3 -

Ser. No. 09/806,842

## IN THE CLAIMS

1-3. (cancelled)

4. (twice amended) A method for ~~screening for~~ testing treatments of neurodegenerative disease comprising:

inducing protein aggregation in a first sample comprising NACP/ $\alpha$ -synuclein by exposing a first sample to an oxidizing agent of amyloidogenic proteins;

exposing the first sample amyloidogenic proteins to a treatment;

inducing protein aggregation in a second sample comprising NACP/ $\alpha$ -synuclein by exposing a second sample to the oxidizing agent;

measuring an aggregation level of NACP/ $\alpha$ -synuclein in the first sample and the second sample;

and measuring comparing the aggregation level of NACP/ $\alpha$ -synuclein in the first sample and with the aggregation level of NACP/ $\alpha$ -synuclein in the second sample to test for a decrease in aggregation, wherein the decrease less aggregation in the first sample is indicative of an effective treatment.

5. (twice amended) The method of claim 4 ~~44~~, wherein the oxidizing agent comprises oxidative stress is stimulated by a mixture of metal-ions and hydrogen peroxide.

6. (twice amended) The method of claim 4 ~~44~~, wherein the oxidizing agent comprises a product of oxidative stress is stimulated using an iron-catalyzed oxidative reaction.

7. (twice amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the treatment comprises ~~expression of~~ a non-amyloidogenic protein that modulates aggregation of NACP/ $\alpha$ -

[PA9013.AMDYMASL04.B02.frm]

- 4 -

Ser. No. 09/806.842

synuclein.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the non-amyloidogenic protein is  $\beta$ -synuclein.

9-11. (cancelled)

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 4 14, wherein the treatment comprises an agent to promote the expression of anti-amyloidogenic proteins.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the anti-amyloidogenic protein is  $\beta$ -synuclein.

14. (new) The method of claim 4, wherein the first sample comprises cells that express NACP/ $\alpha$ -synuclein.

15. (new) The method of claim 14, wherein the cells are neuronal cells.

[PA9013.AMDYMASL04.B02.frm]